



Attorney Docket No. P67117US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of Alexander BECKMANN

Appl. No. 09/926,120

Group Art Unit 1742

Filed: September 19, 2001

Examiner Tima M. McGuthry Banks

For: SULFIDIZATION OF SULFIDE ORES FOR HYDROMETALLURGICAL EXTRACTION
OF COPPER AND OTHER METALS

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p6
12/31/02

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The instant paper responds to the Office Action mailed June 25, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 15-28, without prejudice or disclaimer, and add claims as follows.

B, 28.

A process for extracting metals from chalcopyrite-containing ores comprising leaching steps of microbiological or chemical nature for leaching out the metals, characterized in that

- a) the ores are converted in an inert atmosphere to a reaction product comprising covelline, pyrite, and accompanying sulfides by adding sulfur and additives in a conversion step interposed prior to the leaching steps, and
- b) copper and other metals, precious metals, and rare earths contained in the reaction product are extracted.

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02 FC:2201 168.00 CH

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